



FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

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A TOUCH OF COLOR

Spring 2005 Bridal

With an average of 2.4 million weddings annually in the U.S., the bridal industry as a whole is flourishing. And it is not at all surprising that of all the wedding necessities, the bridal gown is squarely at the top of the list. This season's New York bridal market was bustling with runway shows as well as

presentations in various hotels. Throughout the formal shows for spring 2005, and in almost every presentation, FI noticed more color, often incorporated into the gown using embroidery, ribbon sashes tied at the waist, satin trims, and panels. Also on the increase were halter neck-

continued on page 5

BAG IT

Fall 2004 Accessories

Without question the key accessory this season is the handbag. Taking its cue from ready-to-wear trends, the handbag comes in many guises. Texture, fur, embellishment, pattern mixes, metallics, crocodile, lizard, textured and pebble grain surfaces, animal printed hair calf and embossed exotics are major statement makers. Look for structured, hand-held retro shapes, clutches, framed pouches, double handle barrels and satchels, totes and shoppers.

continued on page 2

ELIZABETH FILLMORE



Details are another element for fall, from silk "scarf" straps and hardware closures, to turn locks, exposed zippers, buckles, hooks and luggage clasps. With such a diversity of riches, "bagging" the perfect fall handbag should be a cinch.

At COACH, textures and patterns were deftly combined. Particularly appealing is the "Hamptons" hound's-tooth/suede framed retro purse with turn lock detail. Another witty combination pairs faux ocelot with pale mauve suede and brown leather trim. This top handled bag is detailed with a brown suede bow, buckle closure and ribbon beading. Tiny clutch bags look fresh and Coach's "Soho python" version in apple or natural with wrist strap is on the money. Making its debut for fall is ECHO HANDBAGS. Offering a fresh perspective on the shopper is "Gwen" a multicolored checked wool tote with suede trim. There's also a petite horizontal tote in solid blanket wool with checked/suede flap pockets. The "Marissa" range offers a Teflon coated, silk satin, pocketed shoulder bag in a stylized floral trimmed with tweed. The "tweed collection" from LESLIE NEWTON has the right jaunty appeal. Best bags are the "Louise" tote and "Heart" clutch in black/white hound's-tooth accented with

burgundy crocodile patterned leather. Also making her handbag debut was KATHA DIDDEL who showed classical, yet whimsical, handmade needle-point bags that range in size from travel totes to handbags and evening clutches. The collection features both petit point and gros point combined with Italian tanned leather trim.

Sporty shapes in interesting fabrics were noteworthy at MZ WALLACE. Highlights include a quilted Cordura nylon flap-over tote with pebble leather trim, a paisley velvet tote with pewter leather trim and a soft tweed hobo with olive leather strap. At BARR & BARR the handbags possess a classic elegance. Styling harks back to the ladylike '30s, '40s and '50s. Truly elegant are the alligator clutches in delicious shades of cherry, plum, leaf, chocolate and classic black. Very retro inspired is a suede top handled bag, offered in the same color range, and the double handled flap-over handbag in grained calf with gold hardware closure. This is a collection not to be missed. TUMI showed a strong collection for fall. Impressive is the "Bubbles" group in a whimsical retro-style print. The satchel and tote come in black, charcoal and walnut and feature leather straps and detachable zippered pouches. "Prescott" is a sleek range in black and claret. Noteworthy is the East/West shoulder bag with turn lock

closure. One must-have is Tumi's indispensable baby tote from their "Cargo" range. Its stunning lines belie its practicality. In leaf, brick or black, the tote features loads of pockets, wet pouch, phone pocket and even a changing pad.

ERIC JAVITS provides "armor" for the urban jungle with a terrific range of animal patterned hair calf "croissant" bags trimmed with leather or patent shoulder straps and top zip. Metallic colors are also key. Particularly Javits' versatile water repellent quilted totes in bronze, pewter, champagne and gold blush. Also water repellent are the rich woven leather bags in soft neutral tones. DOONEY & BOURKE taps into the season's trends with a vast collection. Highlights include the mini chained clutch bags in vivid shades of crocodile patterned metallic leather and a chic retro '50s travel hat box with signature DB logo pattern. Unusual shades of grape, seafoam, fog and brown add panache to a chic collection of train cases and doctors' satchels in crocodile pattern leather. MONSAC combines colors beautifully in their print pony range. The leopard hobo is trimmed with scarlet leather, and the zebra slim shoulder bag gets magenta (or black) flap and strap. On target with the trends — their Lurex herringbone wristlet in champagne or gunmetal and their large metallic tote. Shine and

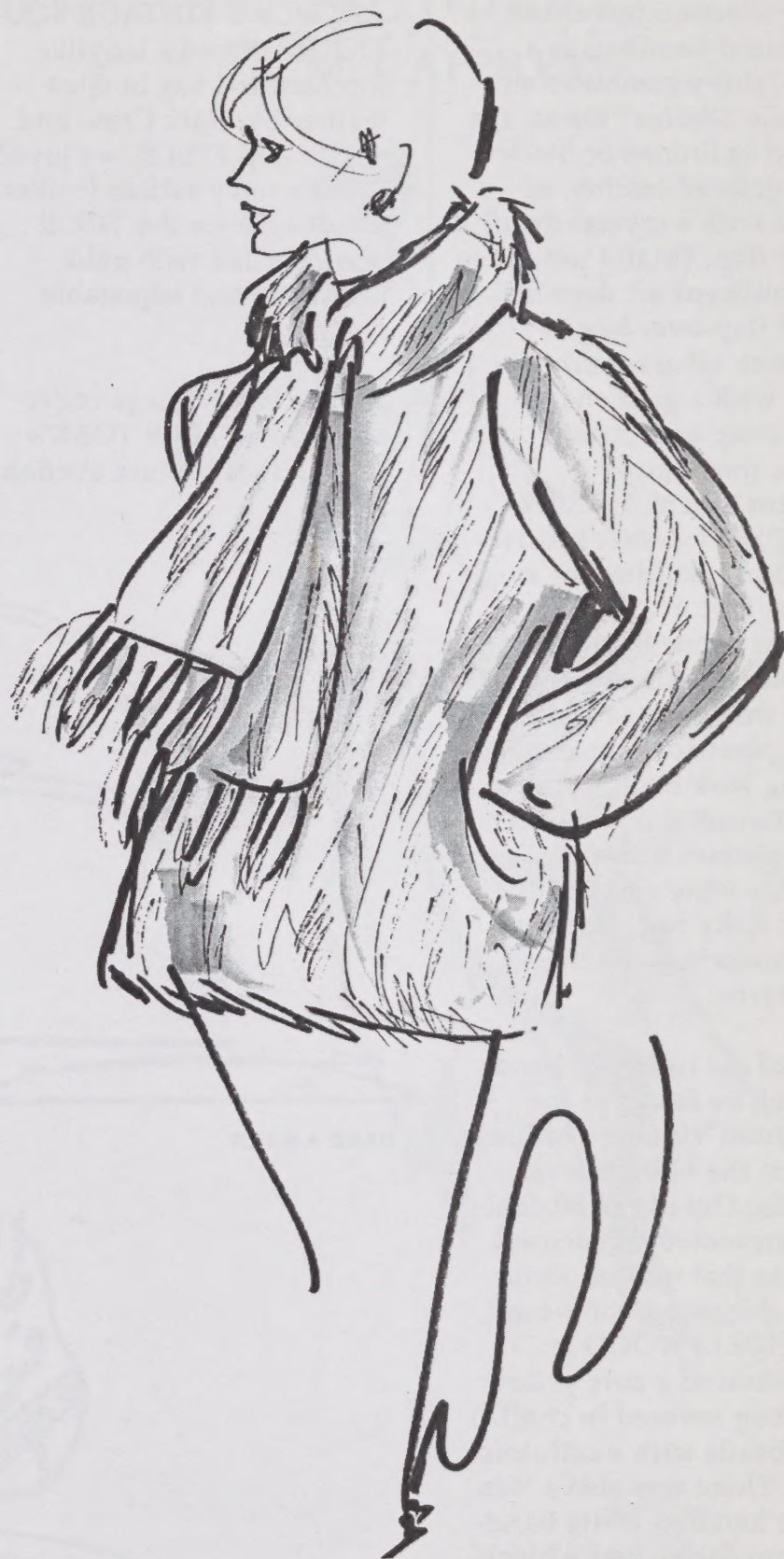
“.... THE ART OF FUR”

Fur Fashions 2004

At the aptly titled event “Every Picture Tells a Story: The Art of Fur”, the Fur Information Council of America’s (FICA) annual fashion show and cocktail party had the buyers and media captivated by the diversity of designs. Savvy retailers searching for the definitive fall ‘04 trends need look no further than this show’s participants. From richly colored furs in luscious shades to luxurious treatments that render furs as light and airy as the softest fabrics, plus a wealth of style options, the FICA event served to capture the depth and breadth of the fur market.

Participants at this year’s show included such top tier names as Adrienne Landau, Cassin, The Foxy Brown Collection by Alexis & Gianni, Helen Yarmak, Royal Chie, Sorbara Furs, Louis Dell’Olio for LeGar, Dominic Bellissimo for ITA Ltd., Zuki Internationale Zang Toi, Jeffrey Chow, Claude Montana, Jean Paul Gaultier et al. In addition to a still-life presentation, guests were treated to a fast paced runway show. FI zeroed in on the hottest and most desirable fur fashions of fall/winter 2004.

continued on page 9



DAVID GOODMAN

large metallic tote. Shine and texture is also noteworthy at LALIQUE. The stunning collection features a structured handbag in a matte/shiny combination from the "Perles" range. It's offered in bronze or black cross-grained leather, accented with a crystal detail on the flap. Totally unique is a magnificent art deco inspired flap-over bag in Galuchat (sharkskin): Detailed with a gold snake chain strap and crystal accent, this is truly a collector's item. KAREN WILSON's extensive collection has something for everyone. Best are the '50s inspired frame handbags in a variety of patterns and colors that include Glen plaid, pinstripe and vintage looking bark cloth floral. Also charming is a checkerboard pattern tote and Wilson's witty slant on the classic Kelly bag. Her version comes in wool checks or patterns.

Some of the trendiest handbags can be found at the Manhattan Vintage Clothing Show at the Metropolitan Pavilion. Out of the 50 dealers represented, FI focused on those that offered some of the chicest one-of-a-kind bags. HOLLYWOOD & VINE showed a cute yellow fabric bag covered in chalk white beads with a celluloid frame. There was also a '60s double handled white handbag from Sacha, and a black

velvet Roberta di Camerino gem that looked timeless. SUNNY CHAPMAN DESIGNS had a navy Coach bag with gold chain handle and frame by Bonnie Cashin. ANGELA'S VINTAGE BOUTIQUE offered a ladylike top handled bag in wine leather by Mark Cross and at DIVINE FINDS, we loved Koret's navy saffian leather handbag from the '60s. It was detailed with gold hardware and adjustable strap.

For the true vintage collector, DOYLE NEW YORK's semiannual couture auction

is a treasure trove of handbag finds. Highlights from their latest sale offered these gems — a Hermes bucket bag in garnet leather from the '70s and a rare custom made crème twill travel bag with tan leather trim. From Gucci, there was a timeless sterling capsule shaped clutch in a satin finish from the '50s. Also noteworthy was a modified bucket shape handbag from the 1940's in a rare brown crocodile tile with an articulated tile handle.



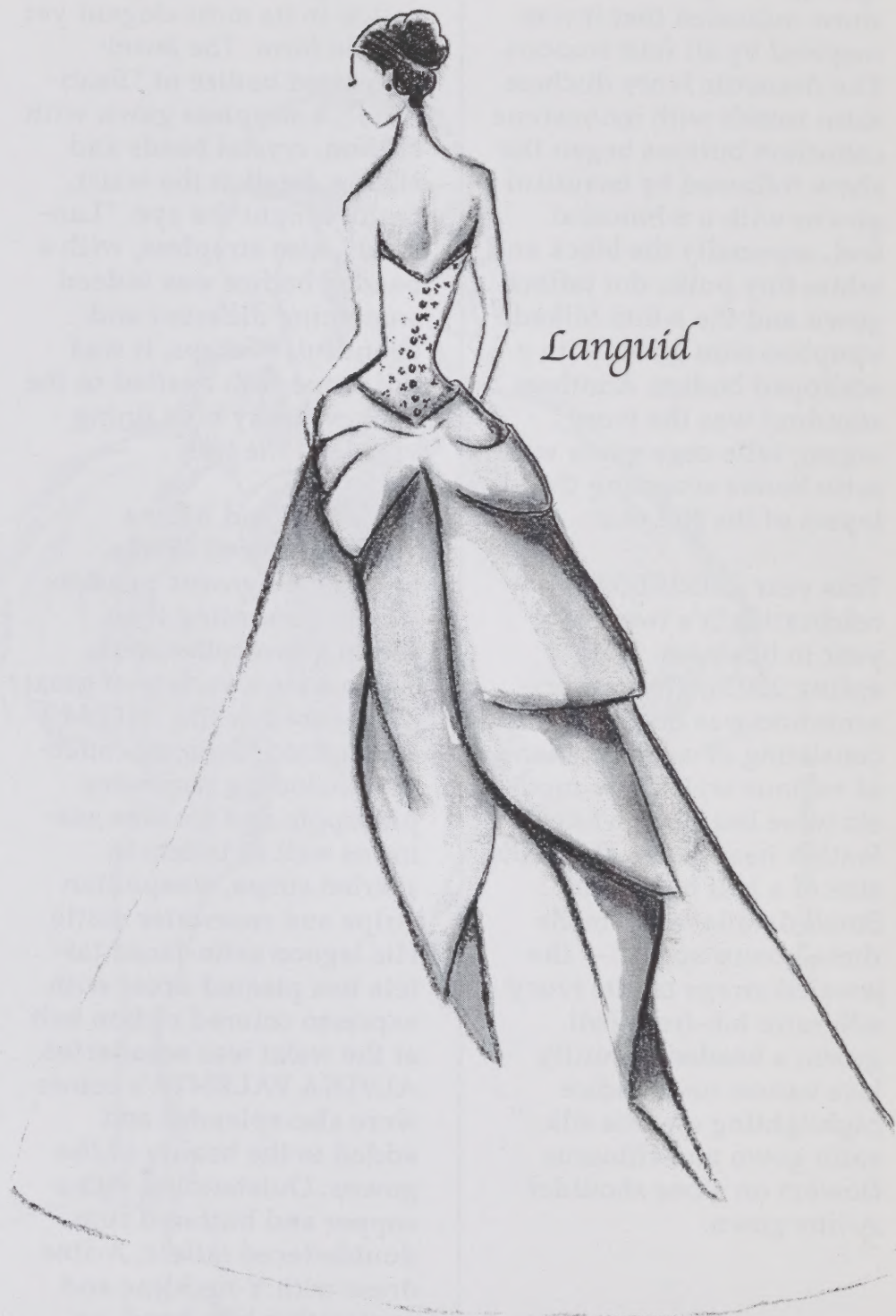
lines. As always, there is a spectrum of fabric choices for the bride, from tulle and silk chiffon, to satin and Alençon lace

This season, ELIZABETH FILLMORE's collection was very strong! Her lace filled collection called "Misty Roses" consisted mainly of slim silhouettes. The most impressive of the group — a beautiful strapless crochet lace and satin trumpet gown offered a delicate lace capelet that added versatility to this enchanting dress.

MONIQUE L'HUILLIER presented a very lovely collection inspired by the early 19th century. With soft colors and handcrafted details, it created the aura and sophistication of the classic bride. Even the names of the dresses stirred a romantic feeling. "Swan Lake" had an asymmetric pleated tulle A-line skirt and lingerie dropped-waist pleated bodice. A tip of the shoulder empire waist A-line gown called "Audrey" was another favorite, with its lace overlay and signature trapunto stitched belt with bow detail on the back. Finally, "Antoinette", with its three-quarter sleeves and pearl buttoned back corset bodice with lace paneled skirt, would make any bride feel like belle of the ball.

The sun beaming through the windows of CAROLINA

JUSTINA
HAUTE COUTURE
McCAFFREY



HERRERA's Seventh Avenue showroom fell upon the gorgeous bouquets carried by the models. Her elegant collection spoke of sunshine and the first pretty days of spring, though the run-of-show indicated that it was inspired by all four seasons. The dramatic ivory duchess satin trench with moonstone cabochon buttons began the show followed by beautiful gowns with a whimsical feel, especially the black and white tiny polka dot taffeta gown and the white Mikado strapless slim gown with a scalloped bodice. Another standout was the ivory zigzag tulle cage gown with satin bands accenting the layers of the full skirt.

This year CHRISTOS is celebrating it's twentieth year in business. Their spring 2005 collection presentation was quite large, consisting of over 44 gowns of various styles. The models wore beautiful white feather headpieces about the size of a half headband. Small details really made these gowns special—the jeweled straps on the ivory silk satin bib-front ball gown, a beaded chantilly lace bateau neck bodice highlighting a white silk satin gown and Hibiscus flowers on a one shoulder A-line gown.

Canadian-based designer JUSTINA McCAFFREY showed an alluring and unique collection titled "Transfigured". It was a bit whimsical with the incorporation of color — perfect for a spring/summer wedding. "Augustine", a bias tiered A-line gown, was sophistication in its most elegant yet simple form. The jewel-encrusted bodice of "Beatitude", a strapless gown with chiffon, crystal beads and ribbon detail at the waist, really caught the eye. "Languid", also strapless, with a beaded bodice was indeed something different and beautiful. Perhaps, it was the taupe sash bustled in the back with sky blue lining visible at the tips

Jim Hjelm and Alvina Valenta showed lovely bridesmaid gowns in addition to presenting their bridal gown collections. There were a variety of great colors used in JIM HJELM's bridesmaid/evening collection including raspberry, pineapple and ice blue satins as well as taffeta in sherbet stripe, Neapolitan stripe and rosewater matte. His lagoon satin-faced taffeta box pleated dress with espresso colored ribbon belt at the waist was wonderful. ALVINA VALENTA's colors were also splendid and added to the beauty of the gowns. Outstanding was a copper and buttered rum double-faced taffeta, A-line dress with V-neckline and contrasting bias band, accented by a bow at itsempire

waist. Their wedding dresses were equally delightful. Our favorites had box-pleated skirts.

LAZARO showed bridesmaid/formal dresses as well. The details on these gowns really made them stand out, as long as they weren't overdone. He presented several gowns described as BMW, all accented with gold embroidery. Several were absolutely beautiful with abundant beading and detail in some of the finest silks. However, a couple gave credence to the adage "less is more".

BONAPARTE NY presented their second collection at the W Hotel. It was elegant, with a bit of the ocean influence from designer Junko Yoshioka's prior collection. Her signature style would suit any bridal venue ... including a beautiful wedding on a beach. Our favorite — "Marzapan" — a silk duchesse mermaid gown with detachable train in a wonderful pale pink.

FUTURE NY BRIDAL MARKETS

OCTOBER 9-13, 2004

APRIL 9-12, 2005

TENTATIVE DATE

SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2005

FI INSIDER

Cathy Hardwick Debuts Accessories

One of fashion's most prominent names, designer Cathy Hardwick, recently premiered her collection of delicious accessories. While fall '04 brings a splendid collection of cashmere wrap coats, scarves, shawls and embroidered silk jackets, FI focused on the capsule collection of fur wraps, capelets, stoles and collars. Styles run the gamut from a must-have animal print sheared mink capelet to a flirty, fox trimmed mink bolero, asymmetrical fox stole, sable neck ring and a show-stopping sable wrap. Sketched is Hardwick's retro '30s capelet in red fox with satin bow ties.

For an appointment to see the complete collection contact:

Patricia Underwood/Cathy Hardwick Showroom
498 Seventh Avenue, NY,
NY 10018
212-268-3774



KATHY HARDWICK

INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE

JULY 18-20 NEW YORK
THE COLLECTIVE (Menswear)

JULY 19-21 NEW YORK
PROJECT SHOW (Menswear)

JULY 20-21 NEW YORK
TURKISH FASHION FABRIC
MARKET

JULY 24-28 SAN FRANCISCO
GIFT SHOW

JULY 25-27 ATLANTA
MEN'S MARKET
(RTW/Accessories)

JULY 25-28 NEW YORK
JA NEW YORK SHOW
(Int'l Fine Jewelry Show)

JULY 25-28 WASHINGTON, D.C.
GIFT SHOW

JULY 31-AUG. 3 NEW YORK
FAME
(Womenswear/Accessories)

AUG 1-3 NEW YORK
ACCESSORIESTHESHOW

AUG 1-3 NEW YORK
MODA MANHATTAN
(Designer RTW)

AUG 1-3 NEW YORK
THE CHILDREN'S CLUB

AUG. 1-3 NEW YORK
FFANY COLLECTIONS
(Bridge/Salon Footwear)

AUG. 1-3 NEW YORK
LINGERIE AMERICAS

AUG. 1-3 NEW YORK
IAS/INTIMAAMERICA
(Intimate Apparel)

AUG. 1-3 DUSSELDORF
CPD WOMAN/MAN
(Fashion Fair)

AUG 1-3 DUSSELDORF
GLOBAL FASHION
(Sourcing)

AUG. 1-4 NEW YORK
NOUVEAU COLLECTIVE
(Womenswear/Accessories)

AUG. 2-6 NEW YORK
ACCESSORY MARKET

AUG. 2-6 NEW YORK
INTIMATE APPAREL MARKET

AUG. 2-6 NEW YORK
SWIMWEAR MARKET

AUG. 2-6 NEW YORK
HOSIERY MARKET

AUG. 2-13 NEW YORK
WOMEN'S RTW MARKET

AUG. 3-5 NEW YORK
ACCESSORIE CIRCUIT

AUG 3-5 NEW YORK
INTERMEZZO COLLECTIONS
(Womenswear)

AUG. 3-5 NEW YORK
DIRECTION
(Int'l Textile Design Show)

AUG. 3-5 NEW YORK
PRINTSOURCE (Textile Design)

AUG. 6-9 MIAMI
FLORIDA FASHION FOCUS
(Womenswear)

AUG. 6-9 TORONTO
INT'L GIFT FAIR

AUG. 7-9 SEATTLE
SEATTLE TREND SHOW
(Men's, Women's, Children's
Apparel)

Note: In New York from 8/7-10
Designers at the Essex House

continued on page 9

The fur was flying at HELEN YARMAK who showed a gorgeous long, Barguzine sable coat reversible to beaded and pearl trimmed paisley, and a sable shawl reversible to silk with gold and black ornaments. CASSIN targeted the young customer with a chic Rex rabbit, multi-pocket coat in a laser-cut crocodile texture and a self-belted black moiré lamb coat with fox shawl collar. Also youthful was TENDLER FURS' natural jaguar spotted mink jacket and a sheared white belted mink jacket by CARMEN MARC VALVO for SAGA.

Texture played a strong role at many houses. Most notable — a sweeping peach mink crocodile print skin-on-skin wrap coat by STEFANIA

SARRE for CPL GROUP; a chic butter suede back Swakara coat with hand painted flower border from ZANDRA RHODES for POLOGEORGIS; and SORBARA FURS shocking pink, grooved mink jacket coat with pink chinchilla trim.

Glitter and glamour was the order of the day at LOUIS DELL'OLIO for LeGAR. He showed the ultimate shearling coats lavished with matte sequin embellishment in camel and chocolate. Also glamorous was IZZY CAMILLERI for NAFA's white mink crop top. The wide sleeves featured lamb, leather and mink detailing. From JEFFREY CHOW, a feathered, Saga blue fox chubby featured skins worked on the bias forming a chevron effect. DOMINIC BELLISSIMO for ITA LTD. offered a youthful yet sophis-

ticated perforated shearling, ruffle-front coat in black with hot pink lining. Young and hip was an amethyst chinchilla bolero from THE FOXY BROWN COLLECTION by Alexis & Gianni and a black mink, retro-inspired shrug by ANDRE GN for NAFA.

There were sporty chic styles aplenty. Highlights from this category included DAVID GOODMAN's woven, Russian sable jacket and scarf, and Alexis & Gianni for PETRAS FURS' blonde Swakara fencer's jacket with bleached Finn raccoon trim. Two equally outstanding coats were the checkerboard knitted sheared beaver hooded coat with Tanuki trim by BYTE GIULIANA TESO and CASSIN's gorgeous camel/moss tweed woven Rex rabbit sweeping coat.

INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

continued from page 8

AUG. 8-10 CHICAGO
MEN'S SPRING MARKET

AUG. 10-12 TORONTO
MODE ACCESSORIES

AUG. 13-16 LOS ANGELES
THE ANNEX BY DESIGNERS
& AGENTS (RTW)

AUG. 13-17 LOS ANGELES
WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S
MARKET

AUG. 13-17 CHICAGO
WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S
MARKET

AUG. 14-19 NEW YORK
N.Y. GIFT SHOW

AUG. 22-25 MONTREAL
GIFT SHOW

AUG. 26-30 ATLANTA
WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S
MARKET

AUG. 27-30 MADRID
INTERNATIONAL FASHION
WEEK

AUG. 27-30 MADRID
IMAGENMODA
(Int'l Women's Fashion Fair)

AUG. 27-30 MADRID
CIEN X CIEN
(Int'l Jeans/Street/Sportwear)

AUG. 27-30 LAS VEGAS
OFF-PRICE SPECIALIST
SHOW

AUG. 30-SEPT. 2 LAS VEGAS
ISAM (Swimwear)

AUG. 30-SEPT. 2 LAS VEGAS
MAGIC MARKETPLACE

EXPLORATIONS

ROOMS FILLED *with* LIFE and SEDUCTION

Dangerous Liaisons:

Fashion and Furniture in the 18th Century

Even though it's a still life, peak into the French homes of the 18th century, action abounds. This exhibit excites the imagination and arouses the senses. Male and female mannequins wearing 18th century fashions play upon wonderful furniture of the same era. The whole exhibit comes to life via the imagined action taking place in each of the Museum's French period rooms. An absolute favorite was a tableau of a couple kissing and embracing while leaning against a table from which a porcelain vase has just fallen to the floor and shattered. Two faux dogs are jumping and nipping at the man's coat tails. One's imagination can only predict what will happen next!

Dangerous Liaisons: Fashion and Furniture in the 18th Century

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

April 28 – August 8, 2004

1000 Fifth Avenue (82nd Street)

Hours: Monday, closed;

Tues.-Thurs. & Sun. 9:30AM-5:30PM,

Fri.-Sat. 9:30AM-9PM,

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